

Leader Guide 2.26.12

The Point:

We are the Rest of the Story of the Book of Acts

The Outline:

Jesus Commanded His People

Jesus Grounds His People

Jesus Teaches His People

Jesus Reminds His People

Jesus Works Through His People

RELATE:

-If Jesus were to spend a week with us in Spokane... what types of things would He be doing? (Where would He go; Who would He interact with; What emotions would He have; Would He take you along; etc.)

-What kind of encouragement do you think He would give to the church in Spokane in 2012?



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REFLECT:

- -Of all of the commands that Jesus gave to His followers, why would the command to make disciples be focused on so much in the book of Acts?
- -Do you find this command encouraging or discouraging? Do you think of it more as a privilege or a burden? (be honest) Why is that?
- -Why do you think it was so important for Jesus to show Himself alive to His disciples? Couldn't Jesus' message have gone forward without all of this 'resurrection stuff'?
- -Read 1 Corinthians 15:3-8 for more about these convincing appearances
- -In the sermon, the 'Kingdom of God' was defined this way:
 - God's people, in God's place, living under God's rule, through God's King
 - Explain how you think this kingdom will one day be fulfilled... and if it has any significance now.
- -Have you ever heard the phrase 'baptism of the Holy Spirit' before? If so, how did you understand it?
- -Baptism was a ritual in the time of Acts... what was the meaning of the ritual?
- -How are Christians 'baptized' or 'identified' by means of the Holy Spirit
- -Have you experienced the power of the Holy Spirit in your life as a Christian? If so, explain how He has led you and impacted your life?
- -In the sermon, it was pointed out that the book of Acts is an account of Christ working through His church. In what ways does Christ use the church to accomplish His purposes in the world? Try to list 5
- -If it is true that we're the 'rest of the story' of the book of Acts, what implications would this have for our church body? How about your life as an individual?

RESPOND:

- -Lead your group in thanksgiving for the presence of the Holy Spirit in their lives as believers
- -Pray that God would help us to live out His commands... specifically the command to make disciples
- -Pray that God would strengthen our church to carry on the work of Christ in this world, and build His church